

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05049 281417Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02
STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05
L-03 H-01 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06 EURE-00 /101 W
-----281421Z 009022 /46

P R 281310Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3620
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USDEL MTN GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5049

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, PFOR
SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COUNCIL, MARCH 25-26, 1977: BACKGROUND TO
DECISION ON LONDON SUMMIT REPRESENTATION

REF: ROME 5026

1. DISCUSSIONS WITH BRUSSELS-BASED PERM DEL OFFICIALS ATTENDING
THE MARCH 25-26 EUROPEAN COUNCIL HAVE PRODUCED MORE IN THE
WAY OF BACKGROUND TO THE DECISION BY THE EC HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
ON COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION AT THE MAY 7-8 LONDON SUMMIT.

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2. CREDIT FOR TALKING GISCARD INTO BACKING DOWN IS BEING
GIVEN TO FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, WHO WAS THE MIDDLEMAN IN
DISCUSSIONS WITH ROY JENKINS AND WITH THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
OF THE SMALLER EC STATES. SCHMIDT TOLD REPORTERS LAST
TUESDAY, THAT, DURING HIS BONN MEETING WITH JENKINS THREE
WEEKS AGO, HE HAD SAID HE WOULD TRY TO HELP SECURE JENKINS'
PARTICIPATION IN THE LONDON SUMMIT BUT THAT HE COULD NOT GO

SO FAR AS TO ENDANGER HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GISCARD.

3. IRISH FOREIGN MINISTER FITZGERALD TOLD REPORTERS MARCH 26 THAT, SUBSEQUENT TO THE JENKINS VISIT TO BONN, SCHMIDT PHONED GISCARD, GENTLY NUDGING HIM ON THE NEED FOR A SOLUTION. FITZGERALD SAID THAT THIS PROMPTED GISCARD TO WRITE JENKINS TWO DAYS BEFORE THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, SETTING DOWN IN DETAIL THE FRENCH POSITION OPPOSING EC REPRESENTATION BUT STRESSING THAT THIS ATTITUDE WAS NOT DIRECTED AT JENKINS PERSONALLY. IN FITZGERALD'S VIEW, SCHMIDT'S PHONE CALL WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING GISCARD'S ULTIMATE ACCEPTANCE OF AN EC PRESENCE IN LONDON.

4. FITZGERALD TOLD IRISH REPORTERS, HOWEVER, ON A DEEP BACKGROUND BASIS, THAT GISCARD DID NOT BACK DOWN GRACEFULLY. HE INDICATED THAT GISCARD AND DUTCH PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL ARGUED BITTERLY ON THE REPRESENTATION ISSUE THROUGHOUT THE FRIDAY WORKING DINNER. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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